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NEW SPECIES OF PARROT AND RACE OF QUAIL FROM MEXICO

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A recent collecting trip by Chester C. Lamb to Sierra Potosí in central-west Nuevo León resulted in the discovery of an unusual new species of parrot, which is herewith described:

Rhynchopsitta terrisi,² sp. nov.

Maroon-fronted Parrot

Type.— Male adult in worn breeding plumage (sex organs enlarged); number 42495, collection of Robert T. Moore; Sierra Potosí, Nuevo León, Mexico; altitude about 7500 feet; July 8, 1946; collected by Chester C. Lamb.

Specific characters.— Although differing markedly both in pattern and coloration from *Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha* (Swainson), it is nearest to that species, differing in lacking entirely the large yellow patch on the under primary coverts, which, instead, is dark brownish gray with an olive cast; forehead and superciliary region entirely different—Hay's Maroon³ to Hay's Brown instead of poppy red, not extending posteriorly so far on crown; anterior lesser wing coverts much darker red, between Carmine and Ox-Blood Red; small area in front of bare orbital space same color as forehead; red on carpo-metacarpal region much darker, about Garnet Brown; the entire green of upper and under parts very much darker, about Cosse Green, iridescent; size considerably larger, are much darker, about Cosse Green, iridescent; size considerably larger, about fifteen percent in wing, twelve percent in tarsus and toes and somewhat less in other measurements. The sexes are the same, except for slightly smaller size in the females.

Range.— Known only from two areas in the Sierra Madre de Occidental in central-west Nuevo León, namely, the Sierra Potosí at about 7500 feet and another area at 6000 feet elevation, approximately six miles south-east of Galeana, Nuevo León.

Measurements.— Average of three males: Wing 288.8, Tail 190.5, Exposed Culmen 42.0, Tarsus 23.6 millimeters. One female: Wing, 283.4, Tail 189.1, Exposed Culmen 41.0, Tarsus 22.6 millimeters.

Specimens examined.— *terrisi*—Nuevo León: Sierra Potosí 1 ♂ (type), 1 ♀ (July 8); 6 mi. southeast Galeana 2 ♂ (July 21); *pachyrhyncha*—southwest Chihuahua: Laguna Juanota ♂, Mt. Mohinora 1 ♂ 2 ♀, Los Frailes 2 ♂; Michoacán: Rancho La Cofradia 1 ♂—all in Moore Collections.

¹Contribution from the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California.

²Named for Terris Moore, President, Board of Trustees, New England Museum of Natural History, as a token of appreciation of his indomitable will to overcome all obstacles, which made a success of our difficult zoological expedition and resulted in the discovery of *Tephrophilus wetmorei* and the first ascent of Mt. Sangay.

³Names of colors, when capitalized, are taken from Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature," 1912.

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Remarks.— Although this species has the generic characters of the genus *Rhynchopsitta*, it differs decidedly from *Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha* in coloration and has a different color pattern, lacking entirely the least suggestion of the large yellow patch of the under wing or the spot of color, different from the forehead, in front of the bare orbital space, so characteristic of *pachyrhyncha*.

The male type had the sex organs fully enlarged, as well as one of the males taken at a collecting station six miles southeast of Galeana, Nuevo León.

For some time I have known that the range of *Lophortyx gambelii* extends much farther south than has been mentioned in literature, reaching latitude 25° and almost to the vicinity of Culiacán, the capital of the state of Sinaloa. There is now in the Moore Collection an adequate number of specimens taken south of the Rio Sinaloa, to indicate that the birds south of this river represent an undescribed, terminal race, to which I herewith give a name:

***Lophortyx gambelii* friedmanni**,⁴ subsp. nov.

Sinaloa Quail

Type.— Male adult; number 8769, Collection of Robert T. Moore; Reforma, Sinaloa, Mexico; sea level, April 13, 1934, collected by Chester C. Lamb.

Subspecific characters.— Nearest to *Lophortyx gambelii fulvipectus* (Nelson) of southwestern Sonora, but differs from it in having the forehead with much fewer streaks of white, this area in some individuals being pure black; Hessian Brown streaks on nape and sides of neck more conspicuous; large patch on upper abdomen darker, being Warm Buff instead of Light Buff; streaks on under tail coverts considerably darker and browner, being definitely dark brown instead of gray slate color; middle of back darker, more olive-brown, instead of gray with a faint tinge of olive. It differs from true *gambelii* of southern United States in the same characters but to a greater degree and is a darker bird than *fulvipectus*, instead of much paler as is true of *pembertoni* of Tiburón Island, Sonora.

Two birds from near Thome in extreme northeastern Sinaloa just south of the Rio Fuerte, seem to be intergrades with *fulvipectus*, but nearer to *friedmanni*; one of these birds has an almost pure black forehead.

Range.— Entirely in the Sinaloa Coastal Faunal District of Sinaloa from Reforma in the south and probably from the Culiacán River north to the Rio Fuerte.

Specimens examined.— *friedmanni*—Sinaloa: 8 ♂ 2 ♀; *fulvipectus*—southwestern Sonora: 6 ♂ 2 ♀—all in Moore Collections; also all the specimens in the Diekey Collection, University of California at Los Angeles; *gambelii*—southern Arizona: Fresnal 2 ♂ 1 ♀—in Moore Collections; also a large series in eastern museums, not all compared at the same time.

Remarks.— The habitat of this form covers part of the Lower Arid Tropical Zone of Sinaloa, which, however, has considerably more annual rainfall than that of southwestern Sonora, the habitat of *fulvipectus*. The rainfall in this area averages nearly twenty inches annually, instead of about three to ten inches in southwestern Sonora. The females differ in the same characters as the males, but the foreheads are almost solid brown instead of streaked gray and brown and the lower throat is darker.

⁴I take great pleasure in naming this new form for Dr. Herbert Friedmann, Curator of Birds of the United States National Museum, as a tribute to the work he has done on the genus *Lophortyx*.